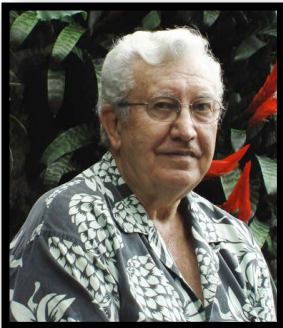


Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



President's Message



I'm hoping all of you and your plants survived the "Global Cooling" we have had this year. As I'm writing this it is 33 °F at high noon and falling. I'm sure all of you wonderful members have

saved and protected plenty of bromeliads for our April 17 & 18th Show.

The Christmas party was a great success with lots of delicious food provided by the members. Although the crowd was slim compared to previous years, there was plenty of food and plants for distribution and the auction.

Thanks to Dave and Mary Fulkerson, John & Kay Miller, Vera Dickey, Dave Mracek for all their hard work in making it a successful event. Also thanks to Beverly Sisco for roasting the turkey and Eileen Prins for baking the ham. Thanks also to all those who brought plants in for the auction and Dave Johnston for assisting with the auction.

Congratulations to Marilyn Byram, the winner of the annual BGTB Distinguished Honor Award.

Thanks, Marilyn, for your hard work and faithfully sending us the BGTB Newsletter every month!

The BGTB's New Year is off to a fast start. The State Fair is early this year. Our booth set-up will be Saturday, January 30th at 10:00 AM. There will be a list passed around at the January meeting for those who would like to man the booth and talk to people and hand out literature as people come by. You will be given free admission to the fair for working the booth.

Please RESERVE the dates of April 15 to the 18th on your calendar to help us with our show. We will have programs in February and March to instruct you on how to groom plants and prepare them for judging.

Our program speaker this month is David J. Christiano from Springfield, Missouri and he will be giving us a program on "The Bromeliads of Northwestern Argentina." We hope you will come and bring your friends and neighbors as our guests for this special speaker.

*Have a healthy and Happy New Year!
See you at the meeting.*

Tom



January 18, 2010 BGTB Program Speaker: David J. Christiano, Springfield, Missouri

Program: The Bromeliads of Northwestern Argentina

Dave grew up on Long Island, NY and is an Electrical Engineer by profession. He started growing Bromeliads after attending a presentation at the Long Island Horticultural Society where he later became President.

He joined the New York Bromeliad Society in 1974 and served on its Board of Directors. With his wife Mary he relocated to Springfield, Missouri where he retired in 2007.

Dave has been an avid greenhouse grower of Bromeliads for 35 years. He won the Mulford Foster Award at a Southwest Bromeliad Guild show in Dallas many years ago. He has published several articles in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society and presented several programs at World Bromeliad Conferences.

He is a bicyclist averaging 2,000 miles/year and current is President of the Springbike Bicycle Club, an amateur photographer, a PC guru and gamer, and webmaster for several sites. He enjoys travel, especially Europe and the Caribbean, and music (mostly classical and opera) and multimedia home theater. With his wife Mary of 37 years they have four children including one M.D. (now a tropical Floridian), one M.B.A., and two graduate students.

Program: The Bromeliads of Northwestern Argentina

Argentina, although often thought of as a tropical country has a very varied climate due to its size and location. It touches Bolivia and Brazil in the north to nearly Antarctica in the south, and the Atlantic in the east and the Andes on the west. This makes for some conditions in which many Bromeliads thrive, even though these variations also make for extremely harsh combinations of temperature and humidity.

We'll follow a photo trip into beautiful but stark northwestern Argentina in November of 2008 into prime cactus country, but one also rich with Tillandsias, Dyckias, Puyas, and Deutercohnias. Occasionally one is also surprised by Bromelias and a smattering of Aechmeas and Vrieseas.



**Bromeliad Guild of
Tampa Bay
Minutes of Meeting
November 16, 2009**

President Tom Wolfe called the meeting to order.

Eileen Kahl welcomed visitors and new members, Anna and Joe Hartman.

Secretary's Report: Lyla Shepard made a motion to accept the October Minutes as written in the Newsletter and it was seconded by Steve Byram. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Paula Benway reported that we have \$3190.42 in our checking account. Motion made by Steve Byram and to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by John Miller and all approved.

Workshop: Eileen Kahl, who is the Curator of Bromeliads at the USF Botanical Gardens, gave a workshop on "Tips and Tricks". She showed how to use socks to protect your arms from thorny bromeliads, and how she uses long tweezers to get leaves out of the plants. She also talked about fertilizing – pineapples and neoregelias like a lot but do not fertilize billbergias and nidulariums. She also said from now until March you can put bromeliads in the sun. But be careful of frost – with no tree protection they may get damage. Bromeliads can take cold but not frost. Keep them watered.

Old Business: Tom said we had 16 people from our club at the Extravaganza. It was well done but we had better attendance at ours last year.

They had a contest for the best pineapple shirt for both males and females, and Beverly Sisco won the prize for the best female shirt and she modeled it for us.

Tom mentioned the State Fair Exhibit. The theme has to do with comic book characters and it was suggested that we do a Batman Cave. See Tom if anybody has other suggestions.

Kay Miller talked about the show in April – the theme is "Florida Friendly Flowers" and we have half of the room and will need a lot of plants. It is a judged show.

Tom talked about the World Conference in New Orleans. Some of our members are planning on renting a van to go.

New Business: Tom mentioned the upcoming Christmas Party on December 14th. Set up will be at 6:30 with dinner at 7:00. Dave Fulkerson showed the centerpieces for the tables and said it will be very colorful. There is a book passing around for you to sign up with what you will be bringing. We will also have a plant exchange – if you bring a plant, you will get one to take home - as well as the plant auction.

Door Prize: Won by Janet Stoffels

Birthday Plant: Won by Eileen Kahl

Show and Tell: Plants were shown by Verna Dickey, Steve Byram, Eileen Hart and Dottie Kellogg.

Break for refreshments.

Program: Tom Wolfe showed slides from Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania.

Raffle: Thanks to all who brought plants for the Raffle Table.

Respectfully submitted by Verna L. Dickey, Secretary



November 16 Meeting Snapshots



Eileen's Helpful Tips



Beverly's Winning Pineapple Ensemble



Verna's Show & Tell



Time to Eat!



Raffle Time



Did She Call My Number?



Annual Christmas Party & Auction



Mary & Dave



Fair Trade



Carol & Tom



Auction Preview



Time for the Feast!



What a Foursome!



Good Food and Conversation



Let's Start the Bidding



Sold to Number 12!



Upcoming Bromeliad Events:

Florida State Fair - February 4-15

2010 Bromeliad Judged Show and Sale - April 16-18

Happy Birthday!



Every month, club members celebrating their birthdays provide the refreshments at our meeting. This way everyone helps once during the year. If you have a May or December birthday, please bring refreshments the following month, since we have the picnic and Christmas parties. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

We will have a special drawing for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

December Birthdays: Mary Fulkerson, Harriet Gord, Marylynn Jones, & Jim Stewart

January Birthdays: Kevin Knowles, Vicki Kurtz, Julianne Papp, Lyla Shepard, & Janet Stoffels

Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Eileen Prins of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.

Call 727-546-9590 or email at sprins1012@earthlink.net



Officers for 2009-2010

President: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 bromeliadsociety@juno.com
Vice Pres.: Dave Fulkerson 813-681-4531 mdfmdf@verizon.net
Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 paulabenway@aol.com
Secretary: Verna Dickey 813-685-1055 vernaled@verizon.net
Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Byram 813-949-0503 byramm@verizon.net

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Bob Teems 813-855-0938 teems@tampabay.rr.com

Committee Chairs

Parliamentarian: Lyla Shepard
Librarians: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey
Show: Tom Wolfe
Membership: Eileen Kahl
Publicity: Bob Teems
Programs: Tom Wolfe
Sunshine: Eileen Prins
Photographers: Jim Stewart and Carol Wolfe



Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Any Changes?

If your mailing address or email address changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or byramm@verizon.net



Judged Bromeliad Show and Flower Show

9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Saturday, April 17, 2010

10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Sunday, April 18, 2010

Presented by:

*The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay
Bromeliad Society International Judged Show
Plant Sales and Rare Plant Auction*

In conjunction:

*Judged Flower Show by
The Tampa Federation of Garden Club Circles
Plant Sales and Plant Auction*

Location of Shows:

*Tampa Garden Club
2628 Bayshore Boulevard
Tampa, FL 33629*

For More information call Tom Wolfe (813) 961-1475





The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963. BGTB is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., National Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa
Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments

Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD GUILD
OF TAMPA BAY, INC.
21535 Northwood Dr.
Lutz, Florida 33549**